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C. J. Smith

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## THE ROMAN CLAN

The *gens*, a key social formation in archaic Rome, has given rise to much controversy in modern scholarship. In this comprehensive exploration of the subject, Professor Smith examines the mismatch between the ancient evidence and modern interpretative models influenced by social anthropology and political theory. He offers a detailed comparison of the *gens* with the Attic *genos* and illustrates, for the first time, how recent changes in the way we understand the *genos* may impact upon our understanding of Roman history. He develops a concept of the *gens* within the interlocking communal institutions of early Rome which touches on questions of land-ownership, warfare and the patriciate, before offering an explanation of the role of the *gens* and the part it might play in modern political theory. This significant work makes an important contribution not only to the study of archaic Rome, but also to the history of ideas.

C. J. SMITH is Professor of Ancient History at the University of St Andrews. His previous publications include *Early Rome and Latium: Economy and Society c. 1000 to 500 BC* (1996), *Trade, Traders and the Ancient City* (1998), *Religion in Archaic and Republican Rome* (2000) and *Sicily from Aeneas to Augustus* (2000). He is the co-editor of *Fragmentary Roman Historians* (forthcoming).

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*For Susan*

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## *Preface*

The origins of this book lie in my dissatisfaction with my own account of the *gens* in a previous account of early Rome. For almost a decade, I have been trying to improve upon a few sentences in an earlier book, and I am slightly horrified that the result is as long as it is. Perhaps that is a testament to my obsession, but I hope it also reflects the importance of the subject.

Over such a long period, more people have contributed in direct and indirect ways than any preface can acknowledge. Nonetheless it is a pleasure to bring to mind at least some of my debts. Early versions of parts of the argument were offered as papers to stimulating audiences at Leicester, Cambridge and St Andrews. The real impetus to put my thoughts down as a whole came from the very kind invitation from Trinity College Dublin to present this as the Stanford Lectures in spring 2001. I am immensely indebted to my friends and colleagues there for their hospitality, and the stimulating environment in which I was able to present an early version of these ideas – I hope now to have answered some of the questions so pertinently posed on those occasions. I was then fortunate enough to gain research leave from the AHRB, which gave an invaluable period of time to think, reflect and write.

By that stage the revision of H. Peter's *Historicorum Romanorum Reliquiae* of which I am an editor was well under way. This has been an immensely formative intellectual journey for me, and much of what follows has been coloured by insights gained from that enterprise. It has deepened relationships already formed and created new ones, and to all involved I am very grateful.

Several colleagues kindly commented on all or part of a draft, and I am both lucky in my friends, and indebted to them. Michael Crawford and Jill Harries helped me with Roman law, and Robin Osborne and Robert Parker with the chapter on the *genos*; in so doing they improved the whole immeasurably. Ed Bispham, Guy Bradley and Fay Glinister provided insights and encouragement just when I needed them, and made me feel that the project

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was worthwhile. Sally Humphreys provided immensely valuable comments; Nicola Terrenato was both a generous but also a discerning reader of the text, and I was enormously pleased to be able to talk through some of the issues with him and Laura Motta in Chapel Hill, where by good fortune I was also able to discuss Osteria dell'Osa with Anna Maria Bietti Sestieri. Andrew Lintott and Fergus Millar were immensely supportive, as always. Tim Cornell, Andrew Drummond and John Rich read between them several drafts, commented in great detail, and have improved, quite literally, every page of what follows by their good sense, acumen and scholarship. This was particularly kind, since I have from time to time had the temerity to disagree with them. There is but a pale reflection of the dialogue which I have enjoyed with each of them, and their published works, in this book. Colleagues in St Andrews have been remarkably tolerant of and responsive to my importuning in many ways, and not just in Classics; Nigel Rapport helped me with some of the anthropological issues, and the University Library staff were tremendously helpful; in this context I would also like to thank Sophia Fisher at the Institute of Classical Studies Library. I owe a particular debt to Iveta Adams for her helpful and extremely valuable copy-editing in the final stages.

I have learnt much from all those who have commented on the text, or discussed my ideas, and I have been hugely encouraged by their support. They are not responsible for the positions I have taken, or the errors I have made, but they, and many others who I have bothered and badgered, have contributed both to whatever is good in the book, and to my sense of purpose in writing it. In what follows, despite my best endeavours, much is prefaced by 'perhaps' and 'maybe' so one definitive statement seems appropriate. Susan, who has read this book several times, always with tremendous acuity and faith, and has lived with it for almost as long as I have, gave me the strength to finish what I often thought was beyond me; no dedication could ever say enough.

*Abbreviations*

Bremer <i>IA</i>	F. P. Bremer, <i>Iurisprudentiae antehadrianae quae supersunt</i> (Leipzig 1896–1901).
<i>CAH</i> <sup>2</sup>	<i>The Cambridge Ancient History</i> (2nd edn.) (Cambridge, 1961–).
<i>CIL</i>	<i>Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum</i> (Berlin 1862–).
<i>FGrH</i>	F. Jacoby (ed.), <i>Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> (Leiden 1923–50).
Funaioli <i>GRF</i>	H. Funaioli (ed.), <i>Grammaticae Romanae fragmenta</i> (Leipzig 1907).
<i>GL</i>	H. Keil (ed.), <i>Grammatici Latini</i> (Leipzig 1857–80).
<i>IG</i>	<i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i> (Berlin 1873–).
<i>ILLRP</i>	A. Degrassi (ed.), <i>Inscriptiones Latinae liberae rei publicae</i> (Florence 1957–65).
<i>ILS</i>	H. Dessau (ed.), <i>Inscriptiones Latinae selectae</i> (Berlin 1954).
<i>Inscr. Ital. XIII</i>	A. Degrassi (ed.), <i>Inscriptiones Italiae XIII</i> (Rome 1937–63).
<i>LIMC</i>	<i>Lexicon iconographicum mythologiae classicae</i> (Zurich and Munich 1981–99).
<i>LTUR</i>	E. M. Steinby (ed.), <i>Lexicon topographicum urbis Romae</i> (Rome 1993–2000).
Malcovati <i>ORF</i>	H. Malcovati (ed.), <i>Oratorum Romanorum fragmenta</i> (Turin 1967).
<i>MRR</i>	T. R. S. Broughton, <i>The Magistrates of the Roman Republic</i> (New York 1951–86).
<i>RE</i>	A. Pauly, G. Wissowa and W. Kroll (eds.), <i>Realencyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft</i> (Stuttgart 1894–1980).
<i>Roman Statutes</i>	M. H. Crawford (ed.), <i>Roman Statutes</i> ( <i>BICS</i> Suppl. 64) (London 1996).
<i>RRC</i>	M. H. Crawford, <i>Roman Republican Coinage</i> (Cambridge 1974).
<i>TLL</i>	<i>Thesaurus linguae Latinae</i> (Leipzig 1900–).